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Our democracy and the American Indian. A comprehensive representation of the Indian situation as it is today. By Laura Cornelius Kellogg. (Kansas City, Missouri: The Burton publishing company, 1920. 152 p. \$2.00)

Mrs. Kellogg has written a remarkable book. It is certainly time that someone familiar with Indian affairs presented in concrete form a remedy for existing evils. We have had much sentiment, but little of value in the way of constructive policy.

Mrs. Kellogg's book is a plea for the establishment of a Lolomi among Indians. It is a Hopi term — "perfect goodness be upon you." The author speaks for the educated Indians as well as for the equally intelligent old full-bloods when she recites the long, familiar story of expensive investigations, hearings before congressional committees, widespread graft, frequent changes in the Indian service personnel, inefficiency, and so forth. It is common knowledge in Washington that our management of Indian affairs has been a disgrace and a scandal for eighty years.

The Lolomi as proposed by Mrs. Kellogg might not be perfect, yet it certainly would be a vast improvement over what we have now. Briefly, the assets of tribes and individuals would be pooled in a general organization acting under federal authority. The Indians would be enrolled as members of this coöperative body and would be entitled to one vote each, regardless of the number of shares held. A central authority would administer generally, but local communities would be in charge of their affairs. The author makes a point of how this would safeguard the Indian from the horde of white grafters now the bane of Indian existence. Indians would be free from many present ills. Their property, if held in common, would be sufficient for education, health and commercial development expenses. The huge sums paid white people — mostly political "lame ducks" — would be paid the Indians themselves. The scheme is well worked out and is certainly worthy of trial. There are hundreds of able, educated Indians who could be intrusted with the management of the affairs of their own people. The reviewer hopes that all good Americans who desire a square deal for the Indian may read Mrs. Kellogg's book.

WARREN K. MOOREHEAD

The Arikara narrative of the campaign against the hostile Dakotas, June, 1867. Edited by O. G. Libby. [Collections of the State historical society of North Dakota, 1920] (Bismarek: State historical society of North Dakota, 1920. 276 p.)

It is a relief to find a volume devoted to Indian affairs which presents the point of view of the Indians themselves. Professor Libby has ren-

dered a good service in curtailing his own observations and presenting those of the Indians in complete detail. The introduction summarizes briefly the famous campaign preceding the death of General Custer and many men of the Seventh cavalry. Following this appear the statements of the following Arikara scouts who acted with Custer and Reno: Sitting Bear, Young Hawk, Red Bear, Red Star, Soldier, Strikes Two, Running Wolf, and others.

The interpreter was Peter Beauchamp, a Hampton institute graduate, who appears to have been a good interpreter, with sufficient intelligence to get the Indian point of view, which is frequently lacking in the narratives. One or two other interpreters appear, such as Reuben Duckett. It is perfectly clear from the testimony, which is presented in so interesting and entertaining a manner that the book is to be highly commended to the general reader, that Reno should have come to the support of General Custer; furthermore, that Custer, on seeing the village, might have saved his command had he swung about and joined forces with Reno, who was two and one-half or three miles from the scene of the fight. The combined forces of Benteen and Reno numbered seven companies, whereas Custer had but five. It would appear that Custer would have had time at the beginning of the fight to have cut his way back to Reno and Benteen, and with a total of twelve companies the Seventh cavalry might have turned defeat into victory.

The Indians told the reviewer at Pine Ridge, some ten years ago, that they could have defeated the entire combined Seventh cavalry and that the only reason that they did not destroy Reno was that their scouts reported reinforcements coming from the Yellowstone.

The Indian narratives are explicit, present many interesting facts, and should set at rest the imputation that the Arikara scouts were cowardly. They were not. They were employed to scout and to steal the Sioux pony herd. They attempted to accomplish the latter object, but were driven back by a superior number of mounted Sioux warriors. Mr. Libby makes it perfectly clear by scout testimony that the famous character Curley was not the sole survivor of the Custer fight. He says that the other Crow scouts look upon him with contempt.

Some of the scouts' narratives are so vivid that one can follow them through the entire campaign. The descriptions of the sun-dance lodges and the sand paintings are extremely interesting. The scouts informed the army officers that the Sioux had made "powerful medicine." One scout attributes the peculiar designs of the sun paintings to Sitting Bull. In fact, the scouts went into action believing that the Sioux medicine was so strong that Custer would be defeated. This throws some inter-

esting side light on the attitude of the Indian auxiliaries. It is safe to assume that Custer's defeat was due to overconfidence on his part.

WARREN K. MOOREHEAD

A tour through Indiana in 1840. The diary of John Parsons of Petersburg, Virginia. Edited by Kate Milner Rabb. (New York, 1920)

This book is a clever bit of historical fiction masquerading as a genuine diary. The title-page states that within is a diary of a certain John Parsons, *edited* by a certain Kate Milner Rabb; and facing the title-page is a picture of Parsons, the supposed author of the diary, "taken from a daguerreotype." It would seem that the hero of this Indiana tour was a relative of the supposed editor, and that he actually did make a journey through Indiana in 1840; but aside from this there is no basis, or very little basis, for this feat in editing. There is no diary of John Parsons, other than that which exists in the fertile imagination of the supposed editor; but she inserts footnotes, gathered from reliable historical sources, and otherwise proceeds according to the best style in editing historical manuscripts.

The material in the book first appeared in a series of articles published in the Sunday edition of the *Indianapolis Star*, where they aroused considerable interest throughout Hoosierdom. Thus advertised, the book has likewise had a wide reading and so clever is the deceit that very few have discovered the spuriousness of the "diary." The reviewer could find little fault with the book if the author had simply announced somewhere — perhaps in the preface — the truth, but unfortunately this was not done and undoubtedly the book has been selling under false pretenses. The book itself is extremely interesting and has historical value.

The author has undoubtedly made extensive researches into the history of Indiana for the year 1840 and she tells her story in a charming manner. Her description of the capital city of Indiana, Indianapolis, in 1840 and the various people prominent in the state at that time is admirably done. She has her hero visit the more important towns in the state, as Madison, Greenfield, Logansport, Delphi, Lafayette, Crawfordsville, Terre Haute, Vincennes, and Greencastle, and during his stay in these towns he has a wonderful facility of meeting the best-known citizens in each place, to most of whom he carries letters of introduction. In fact, this young Virginian must have had a mail sack full of such letters of introduction, for there seem to have been few men of importance in Indiana in 1840 whom he did not meet through this medium. He also manifests a lively interest in everything and everybody. He attends political meetings, camp meetings, is invited to parties, visits